

PSYCHOLOGY OF INTERIOR SPACE
A STUDY OF THE IMPACT OF MINIMALISM ON USER
PSYCHOLOGY

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Degree of Master of Science in Interior Design

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Sri Lanka

August 2019

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ABSTRACT

The functional requirement of a place will not solely depend on the spatial quality of its own. Such spaces itself complement the design input together with the perception of users and the human behavior within the space. Minimalism being popular design movement in the worldwide context but has not merely implemented in Sri Lankan interior context with reference to the gallery spaces.

The overall purpose of the study is based on how the aspects of minimalism as a form of design is capable of influencing the mental perception of the user. The notion of minimalism and interior space is what is deconstructed in this specific study, focusing on art galleries as case studies which in turn will provide a better comprehension of how one should approach a design with minimalist aspects as a core foundation.

The focus of this dissertation will also look at how one understands the fundamental reactions of the aspects of minimalism in varying contexts and as a result how a mental shift is made in the viewer's perception of these spaces.

The basic design of the study is to research three specific gallery spaces in Colombo and how the interior aspects of these spaces create an emotional state for the viewer. It will also encompass the aspects of minimalism, the geometry of spaces, the use of colour and light, textures and specifically the effect on the user and the user's response towards these spaces.

The Research area is focused on identifying the perception of users on minimalistic characters of the gallery space and the impact of minimalism on user behaviour which will succeed in the functional aspects of the place simultaneously. Thus, the main objective of the research study is to explore the traits of minimalist design in interior spaces that influence the mood of its users, and the relationship shared by these variables.

The responsibility in implementing the design solutions sensitively in public accessible buildings to succeed the function as well as to cater the user sensitivity is examined considering the interior context. The necessity of clear design sensibility in terms of achieving the task and application of few minimalistic traits which plays a major impact to succeed the function and impose better impact for the users on their perception through the spatial experiences.

Keywords: User perception, Minimalism, Interior context, gallery, spatial quality

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This dissertation would not have been possible without the guidance and encouragement of the following people. I would like to thank Architect Dr. D P. Chandrasekara, Head of the Department of Architecture, the Course Coordinator and Lecturer Architect Nadeeka Jayasundara, and the staff of the Post Graduate Unit for providing me with the necessary support to pursue my academic goals. I am especially indebted to my thesis advisor, Architect Dr. Anishka Hettiarachchi and Architect E. A. T Suresh for their advice and supervision throughout the dissertation process.

I offer my sincere gratitude to Prof. Kelley Beaverford and Prof. Kurt Espersen Peter who have inspired me to pursue my studies in Interior Design. I also wish to thank the lecturers of the Post Graduate Diploma leading to the MSc. in Interior Design for helping me in numerous ways to make this dissertation a successful.

I would like to thank, the management of the Saskia Fernando Gallery, Barefoot Gallery and the Paradise Road Gallery Cafe for providing with the details required for my case studies. I am also grateful to Archt. Channa Daswatte and my colleagues at MICD Associates for their support.

Finally, no one has been more important to me in the pursuit of this project than my family and extended support system of friends. I extend my sincere appreciation to these individuals for their unending support and inspiration.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION	01
1.1 Background.....	02
1.2 Research issue and objectives.....	02
1.3 Methodology.....	03
1.4 Scope and Limitations.....	03
1.5 Research Outcomes and Benefits.....	05

CHAPTER 2

EFFECTS OF INTERIOR SPATIAL CHARACTERISTICS ON USER	06
2.1. General Characteristics of Interior Space on human behavior.....	07
2.1.1. History of interior space.....	07
2.1.2. Space within Space.....	08
2.1.3. Evolution of Interior Space and human behavior	09
2.1.4. User Response to Interior Space	11
2.2. Stages of Psychological Response.....	16
2.2.1. Perception.....	17
2.2.2. Cognition.....	18
2.2.3. Categories of Response.....	19

CHAPTER 3

MINIMALISM IN INTERIOR SPACES	22
3.1. History of minimalism.....	22
3.2. Minimalism on Contemporary Context	22
3.3. Spatial Characteristics in Interior Spaces.....	27
3.3.1. The Geometry.....	29
3.3.2. The Colour and Lighting	31
3.3.3. Textures and Materials	36

CHAPTER 4

RESEARCH DESIGN – CASE STUDIES	38
4.1 Approach.....	39

4.1.1. Criteria for Selection.....	39
4.1.2. Methodology of Study.....	41
4.1.3. Framework for Analysis.....	41
4.2. Case Study One – Gallery One: Paradise Road Gallery	45
4.2.1 Specifications.....	45
4.2.2 Description.....	46
4.2.2.1 Uniqueness of the Paradise Road Gallery	48
4.2.3 Space and Spatial Character.....	49
4.2.3.1 The Geometry	49
4.2.3.2 The Use of Color and Light.....	50
4.2.3.3 Use of Textures	52
4.2.4 Analysis.....	54
4.2.5 Concluding remarks	65
4.3 Case Study Two – Gallery Two: Barefoot Gallery	67
4.3.1 Specifications.....	67
4.3.2 Description.....	68
4.3.2.1 Spatial Progression.....	69
4.3.3 Space and Spatial Character.....	71
4.3.3.1 The Geometry	71
4.3.3.2 The Use of Color and Light.....	72
4.3.3.3 Use of Textures	73
4.3.4 Spatial Quality	74
4.3.5 Analysis.....	76
4.3.6 Concluding remarks.....	84
4.4. Case Study Three – Gallery Three: Saskia Fernando Gallery	85
4.4.1. Specifications.....	85
4.4.2. Description	85
4.4.3 Space and Spatial Character.....	87
4.4.3.1 The Geometry	87
4.4.3.2 The Use of Color and Light.....	88
4.4.3.3 Use of Textures	90
4.4.4 Analysis.....	92
4.4.5 Concluding remarks.....	99

CHAPTER 5.0	
DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION	101
5.1. Discussion	102
5.2. Conclusion	104
LIST OF REFERENCES	107
BIBLIOGRAPHY	108
APPENDIX	110

LIST OF FIGURES

CHAPTER 1.0

CHAPTER 2.0

Figure 2.1 Cave family at a meal, illustration by Irma Deremeaux for The Cave Boy of the Age of Stone (1907)	06
Figure 2.2 3400-year-old necropolis hints ancient Egyptian-life	06
Figure 2.3 Cave-painting	06
Figure 2.4 Maslow's Hierarchy of needs	07
Figure 2.5 Abydos Temple dedicated to Osiris one of the most famous Ancient Egyptian gods	09
Figure 2.6 The Luxor Temple in the ancient city of Thebes	09
Figure 2.7 Saint Peter's Basilica in Vatican City	09
Figure 2.8 Décor of Basilica san vitale in Ravenna city	09
Figure 2.9 Le Corbusier's Notre Dame du Haut in Ronchamp, France	11
Figure 2.10 Le Corbusier's Notre Dame du Haut in Ronchamp, France	10
Figure 2.11 Church of the light Architect Tadao Ando	10
Figure 2.12 Church of the light Architect Tadao Ando	10
Figure 2.13 Categories of space, the hidden dimensions	14
Figure 2.14 Factors impacts human psychology	15
Figure 2.15 Perception	15
Figure 2.16 Perception	15
Figure 2.17 Perception	15
CHAPTER 3.0	
Figure 3.1 The secrets of Zen design: tracing the roots of the minimalism	22
Figure 3.2 Zen-garden-at-tofukuji-Temple-Kyoto	23
Figure 3.3 Zen-garden-at-tofukuji-Temple-Kyoto	23
Figure 3.4 Ikebana-Japanese-art-form	24
Figure 3.5 Tony Smith – Night, 1962. Steel, painted black gods	25
Figure 3.6 Frank Stella creating his Black Paintings	25

Figure 3.7 Frank Stella – Die Fahne Hoch	25
Figure 3.8 Jewish Museum, Berlin	29
Figure 3.9 Jewish Museum, Berlin	30
Figure 3.10 Monochromic Color Vs. accenting objects.....	31
Figure 3.11 Use of black and White	31
Figure 3.12 Hope Jewish Museum, Berlin	32
Figure 3.13 Oleaster plant a Symbol of Hope	32
Figure 3.14 Le Corbusier’s Notre Dame du Haut in Ronchamp, France	34
Figure 3.15 Le Corbusier’s Notre Dame du Haut in Ronchamp, France	34

CHAPTER 4.0

Figure 4.1 Research Design Process	41
Figure 4.2 Logo, Paradise Road	42
Figure 4.3 Paradise Road Gallery, Café and collection	42
Figure 4.4 Paradise Road Location	43
Figure 4.5 Floor Plan, Front Elevation and Rear Elevations.....	44
Figure 4.6 Entrance	44
Figure 4.7 Entrance	44
Figure 4.8 Courtyard and Pond	45
Figure 4.9 Entry Courtyard	46
Figure 4.10 Spatial Progression from Entrance.....	46
Figure 4.11 Gallery area	47
Figure 4.12 Accent Lighting of the Gallery	48
Figure 4.13 Use of Monochrome theme on Furniture and Accessories.....	48
Figure 4.14 Furniture and wall finishes	49
Figure 4.15 Extended Exhibition area in the dinning	49
Figure 4.16 Vibrant atmosphere of the Café area.	50
Figure 4.17 Vibrant atmosphere of the Café area.	50
Figure 4.18 Minimalistic Design approach in Gallery area.	51
Figure 4.19 Age Group	53
Figure 4.20 Gender Ratio.....	54
Figure 4.21 Education	54
Figure 4.22 Occupation	55
Figure 4.23 Frequency of attending for exhibitors	55

Figure 4.24 Questioner no.3	56
Figure 4.25 Questioner no.4	57
Figure 4.26 Questioner no.6	58
Figure 4.27 Questioner no.5	59
Figure 4.28 Questioner no.8	60
Figure 4.29 Questioner no.9	60
Figure 4.30 Questioner no.11	61
Figure 4.31 Questioner no.12.....	61
Figure 4.32 Barefoot Logo	64
Figure 4.33 Barefoot Interior	64
Figure 4.34 Barefoot Interior	64
Figure 4.35 Barefoot Interior	65
Figure 4.36 Barefoot Interior	65
Figure 4.37 Location	65
Figure 4.38 Entrance to Gallery	66
Figure 4.39 Layout Plan	67
Figure 4.40 Entry Verandah	68
Figure 4.41 Gallery.....	68
Figure 4.42 Gallery.....	69
Figure 4.43 Gallery.....	69
Figure 4.44 Exhibition	70
Figure 4.45 Exhibition	70
Figure 4.46 Spatial quality	71
Figure 4.47 Spatial quality	71
Figure 4.48 Gallery Verandah	71
Figure 4.49 Research Design ...	75
Figure 4.50 Age	75
Figure 4.51 Gender	76
Figure 4.52 Occupation	76
Figure 4.53 Questioner 5	76
Figure 4.54 Questioner 8	76
Figure 4.55 Questioner 7.....	76
Figure 4.56 Questioner 9	77
Figure 4.57 Questioner 10	77

Figure 4.58 Questioner 11.....	77
Figure 4.59 Questioner 12.....	78
Figure 4.60 Saskia Fernando Gallery	82
Figure 4.61 Gallery Location	82
Figure 4.62 Exterior	83
Figure 4.63 Exterior	83
Figure 4.64 Entrance	84
Figure 4.65 Interior	85
Figure 4.66 Interior	85
Figure 4.67 Interior	86
Figure 4.68 Use of Colors	86
Figure 4.69 Research Design	88
Figure 4.70 Questioner 1	91
Figure 4.71 Questioner 2	91
Figure 4.72 Occupation 3	91
Figure 4.73 Questioner 4	91
Figure 4.74 Questioner 5	92
Figure 4.75 Questioner 7.....	92
Figure 4.76 Questioner 8	92
Figure 4.77 Questioner 9	92
Figure 4.78 Questioner 10.....	93
Figure 4.79 Questioner 11.....	93
Figure 4.80 Questioner 12.....	93